



Idaho Business Education Association

Professional Educators Building Tomorrow's Quality Workforce

2005 Fall Conference Report

I am so relieved that the 2005 IBEA Fall Conference is behind us although it was a great experience for me. As president of this organization I would like to commend those who worked so diligently to make this conference a success. I would also like to thank all of the attendees who were so patient and understanding when things didn't go so well. If you have ever been in charge of such an event you realize how difficult it is to get everything in the right place at the right time.

As I reflect on the conference I am quick to realize the reasons why we come together for these events. The time spent with our peers is invaluable as we share our great ideas and seek answers and solutions to the challenges we face in our classrooms. I thank the presenters and the vendors who took time to prepare for this conference and provide us with tools and insights. Everyone contributed great things!

I know that many were disappointed that we were unable to attend the industry tour at Jackpot. It was a distressing time for me as I suddenly had to seek other avenues due to scheduling problems at Cactus Pete's. Lorraine Rapp, our incredible IBEA secretary, once again bailed me out by setting up the tour with the Dell Service Center. I hope that all who attended were able to gain some insights as to what might be available to the students should they seek employment with Dell.

I must say that the Dutch Oven social was outstanding. Thanks to Jenna Meeks and her 4H team for their wonderful service and incredible meal! I could see how much effort went into this event and they were so organized and the evening concluded on a very successful note.

Having the Post-Secondary Business Professionals of America members join us this year provided good opportunities for interaction between the secondary and post-secondary environments. One of the goals that I had

hoped to achieve during my tenure as president was to bridge the gap between the two entities.

I believe that by planning joint activities such as this we develop a clear understanding

of the strengths of each level of our organization. Thanks to the BPA Advisors for bringing your students and participating in the conference.



Darrell Muck delivering closing words at the IBEA conference awards dinner

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Congratulations
to Lorraine Rapp for
winning the trip to the
WBITE Conference in
Hawaii.

*Thank you Lorraine for
donating the money back to
IBEA.*

*Your support of our
organization is
appreciated.*

Have fun in Hawaii.

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The atmosphere at the closing dinner was so inviting. It appeared that everyone enjoyed the meal and we had a great time with the door prizes and the drawings. Special thanks to Bekah Heiner, Clay Long, Kyle Neal, and Chase Rapp for their contribution to the conference. They spent countless hours with setting up



Rebecca Heiner and Clay Long encouraging business teachers to play a fundraising game

and monitoring the “High Hand-Low Hand” fund raising event. It was great to have them on the “team” this year. A special thanks to Pam Lambert for putting the fund raising event together. She is a

committed member of this organization and is a good example of how we should involve ourselves in our professional organizations. I’m sure she has encouraged you to join CTEI.

If you haven’t joined please contact her and give her a chance to inform you of the tremendous benefits that await you as a member of CTEI. And we must not forget the climax of our conference when we announced the winner of the trip to the WBITE conference in Hawaii. Congratulation goes to Lorraine Rapp and I must say that after all of the effort she put into making the conference such a success, I was pleased that she won. However, I’m not sure how many of you know that Lorraine then donated her awarded prize back to IBEA. She felt that she was able to fund her trip and wanted to show her support by giving back to an organization that has benefited her so much. Please let her know that she is an invaluable asset to our organization. I believe we can learn from her example. Thanks Lorraine for your dedication and support for IBEA!

Lastly, I would like to take opportunity to thank the members of the Idaho Business Education Association for placing trust in me to lead this organization. I feel so inadequate and it means so much to feel the support from this membership. I truly believe that we must continue to build and provide added benefit to the business educators in the great state of Idaho. We have a quality team both at the Post-Secondary and

Secondary levels. And I don’t want to forget our State Department. Angie Neal and her staff are an incredible group of individuals with a heart for each of the dedicated teachers who provide opportunity for Idaho’s students to receive the best preparation for their future roles in the workplace. Angie is a true advocate for professional-technical education and with her in the driver’s seat we will continue to carry this organization and business education into the future with high standards. Thanks, Angie, for keeping us where we need to be (well, except for the trip home from Reno) and making our teaching experience in Idaho the best it can be!

I trust you are having a wonderful year. Please send me emails or letters letting me know what is happening in your schools and classrooms.



Conference workshop with a panel of business experts

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Darrell Muck
Gooding High School
muck@gooding.k12.id.us

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Idaho State Division of PTE
aneal@pte.idaho.gov

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Skyview High School
keimers@nsd131.org

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dhartman@boisestate.edu

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St. Maries High School
bpeet@sd41.k12.id.us

Secretary

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Twin Falls High School
RappLo@tfsd.k12.id.us

Legislative Liaison

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Soda Springs High School
aubrick@sodaschools.org

Turn Old Into Gold!



BPA students promote the Special Olympics cell phone fundraiser



Recycle

Bought a new cell phone and don't know what to do with your old one?

Idaho BPA is teaming up with Special Olympics. Many BPA chapters have started collecting old or outdated cell phones. The phones are given to Special Olympics. Special Olympics, in turn, sends the phones to a cell phone recycling company that restores the phones and sells them. All proceeds from the collection of cell phones in Idaho comes directly back to IDAHO Special Olympics.

Every year an estimated 130 million cell phones end up in landfills or stored in a drawers and forgotten. Most cell phones have value and can be refurbished and resold. Special Olympics has found a way to turn unwanted cell phones into cash and help the environment. Just three recycled cell phones could make it possible for a Special Olympics athlete to train and compete in their sport for one season.

"Recycle for Special Olympics" promotion runs until January 31, 2006. For more information visit www.specialolympics.org/recycle. Through the website you can find out how to recycle your cell phone personally or locate the nearest drop off location. BPA chapters, or any other organization, may also register online to become a drop off location. Special Olympics will send you flyers, boxes for collecting cell phones, and posters to begin the promotion. They will even pay for the postage to send the collected phones to their organization, so gear up with BPA and Special Olympics to turn "Old Into Gold".



Teaching Your Students to Communicate Their Thoughts

By Stefanie C. Brimacombe

Stephanie is a Graphic and Business teacher at Salmon River High School in Riggins, Idaho. She has a background in business management and banking. She has been teaching at Salmon River High School for 5 years.

With multiple levels of ability within our classrooms, we are often challenged to find activities that meet the needs of all our students while teaching them employability skills. One idea that I have found successful in my classes is to use 5-minute "bell-ringer" activities that call for students to identify their cognitive processes. While I take care of administrative duties, students are required to solve a problem listed on the board or projected on a screen. The question is geared toward an enrichment (rather than remedial) learning continuum. At the end of the allotted time, I randomly call on students of all abilities to give me their answer, right or wrong; more importantly, I ask them to verbally map out their thinking when solving the problem.

When students are encouraged to reflect on and verbalize their thinking, they build communication and problem-solving skills, offer insight to their peers, and detect their own misconceptions. This really has really cut down on sarcastic and critical expressions among classmates because it gives the students opportunities to see how other students are resolving problematic issues. In addition, this type of activity offers me another method of assessment. The more "intelligences" (Howard Gardner) one can incorporate over a period of time, the more effective this activity becomes. For example, one might have students list the steps they take to do a routine activity, such as sharpening a pencil. Once they are done, have them close their eyes imagine the last time they sharpened their pencil. Instruct them to use each of their senses while they envision the activity. Next, have them create and draw a "Sharpen your pencil" Icon. Finally, instruct them to develop another list of steps they take for sharpening their pencil. Call on a few students to describe the differences between the two lists and ask them to retrace their thinking from the first list to the last. Why the differences?

Another example is an activity that a 7th grade math teacher's [on-line syllabus](#) inspired. The Daily

Gross Out (DGO) appeals to an adolescent's preoccupation with bodily functions while incorporating higher order math skills to solve a problem. I use Dave Seymore Publications "It's Alive" math series. Even though the problems are developed for students on the high end of exceptional needs, I use them for students of all abilities so they can model their thinking to one another. This is where the playing field is evened out because all students verbally map out their thought process as well as listen to others do the same. No thought process is invalidated, no thought process is ridiculed.

This teaching strategy does take some time to implement, and the rules of no ridicule *must* be well enforced. I usually start with simple problems--giving the students about two weeks to get used to reflective practice and then reinforce the procedures as we delve into more complex issues throughout the first semester. This foundational work is well worth the effort. I find that our discussions are more in-depth and ideas flow more freely when the students are respectful of one another's ideas and diverse patterns of thinking.

In order to maintain a competitive edge in our global society, businesses need critical thinkers who are willing to listen to others and implement change. Identifying and successfully communicating one's thinking to others--as well as listening to and respecting the ideas of peers--are qualities that many businesses today spend valuable training funds trying to achieve. Why not start in our classrooms?





Jean Matsui Hara
WBITE President

Message from the WBITE President. . .

Aloha my Idaho Business Education Association colleagues! Unfortunately, my hectic work schedule prevented me from attending your IBEA/BPA October 6-7, 2005, Conference, *Professional Educators Building Tomorrow's Quality Workforce*, in Twin Falls. I am confident you had a wonderful conference.

We business educators continue to be challenged with standards-based assessments, program accountability, student learning outcomes, and enrollment declines in our business courses and professional organizations. We must mobilize our efforts and build strong membership bases in our organizations at the local, regional, and national levels—there is always strength in numbers!

Encourage colleagues to join the National Business Education Association (NBEA), which automatically provides membership in its regional affiliate, the Western Business and Information Technology Educators (WBITE). Benefits of membership include:

- Timely publications such as the *National Standards for Business Education*
- Annual NBEA and WBITE membership rates for conventions, featuring renowned guest speakers. The **2006 NBEA Convention**, *Educating for Success in Business and Life!* has been moved from New Orleans to the Tampa Marriott Waterside and Tampa Convention Center in Tampa, Florida, April 12-15, 2006. Registration information at www.nbea.org
- The **WBITE/HBEA 2006 Conference**, *Po'okela...Sharing a Commitment Toward Excellence*, is at the Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort and Spa in Honolulu Hawai'i, February 17-20, 2006. Registration information at www.hbea.org/WBITE
- Professional development opportunities—The WBITE conference in Hawai'i will include a *Professional Development Institute*. The Idaho Business Education Association may select two NBEA/WBITE members to attend the Institute and WBITE Conference for half the registration fee. Groom prospective leaders in your organization to take on regional or national roles by learning more about WBITE and NBEA. Applications at www.wbite.org
- Networking with your peers gives business educators an opportunity to stay on top of the changing skills required in today's business world through its linkages with corporations and small businesses
- International business—with a separate membership fee in the U.S. Chapter of International Society for Business Education, and through ISBE's journal, *The International Review for Business Education*, informative newsletters, the international conference, and many other benefits of ISBE, you will be apprised of important developments in the global economy. See www.isbeusa.org
- Legislative advocacy—NBEA and WBITE keep members involved with the ongoing national, state, and local efforts to further business education in our schools and communities

Please remember to recognize your outstanding colleagues by nominating them for WBITE and NBEA Awards. Deadlines are **December 1, 2005**. Mark your calendars—February 17-20, 2006. Obtain conference, hotel, transportation, and registration information at www.hbea.org/WBITE. We have an outstanding conference planned. Congratulations to IBEA winner of the air, hotel, and conference fee package drawing! I'll see you and more IBEA colleagues in Hawai'i next year.

Aloha!

Jean Hara



Membership Application Form

ACTE

Career & Technical Educators of Idaho

www.ctei.org

707 W 470 N

Shoshone, ID 83352

Association for Career & Technical Education

www.acteonline.org

1410 King St.

Alexandria, VA 22314 1.800.826.9972

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- International Society for Business Education (ISBE)
- MasterCard program

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION

- ☐ Professional \$70
- ☐ Professional/International Society for Business Education (ISBE) \$100

Membership dues include a \$20 subscription to Business Education Forum. Subscriptions are not available to nonmembers. NBEA dues are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes; however, they may be deducted as a business expense under other provisions of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

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